

# Focus on 5th



News and Events in the 5th Grade  
September 27, 2010  
[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)

## Important Dates

Oct. 11	No School
Oct. 18-22	Conferences
Oct. 18-22	Scholastic Book Fair
Oct. 21	BRAVO Walking Field Trip
Oct. 29	Bowling Field Trip

## Dear Families,

If you haven't done so already, please contact your child's homeroom teacher (preferably by e-mail) listing your **top 3 preferred times**. You can view the available conference times on the 5th Grade Wiki ([www.holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com](http://www.holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com)). We will make every effort to schedule your conference during one of your preferred times and then we will confirm your conference time with you. We would like to meet the parents or guardians of every 5th grade student. Please note there are 4 appointments available for each 30 minute time slot. This format allows you to spend 5-6 minutes with each of your child's four teachers. While conferences are a wonderful opportunity for us to discuss your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact any of us any time throughout the year.

Reading Olympics will begin soon. The first competition will be at Holmes School on November 22nd. Please have your student see Ms. Manuel if they are interested in forming a team.

We would like all 5th grade students to purchase a 5th grade t-shirt. Order forms are due October 1st. Please contact Angela Farnham or Laura Thompson if you have any questions about the t-shirts.

## SPECIALS

### Music

The fifth graders start recorder next week. Please check the music notice in the digital backpack or the 5th grade music blog at <https://sites.google.com/a/op97.org/holmes-music/home> for more information.

### Spanish

Students have been reviewing classroom objects and commands. They had fun making and recording vocabulary presentations with Flip Cameras. We'll be starting with stories this week!

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack**  
For School and District Forms  
<http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>



### Reading/Literature

There will be no Open Court story homework for the next three weeks. We will be focusing on our literature circle novels instead. Students have an assigned number of pages to read, a role sheet (Illustrator) to complete and their vocabulary journals to complete by Friday. Students will have time to work on reading their novels or their role sheets during reader's workshop this week. On Friday, students will gather together with their groups to discuss their novels, so they must be prepared.

As a side note, I have been so impressed with how on task our 5th graders have been during workshop and the effort they are putting forth every day!

### Math

All 5th grade students took the math MAP test on Friday. Results will be used to help identify specific skills students need to focus on. This week we will be working on multiplication. We will review both the partial-products and lattice multiplication algorithms. If you are unfamiliar with either of these, please refer to the SRB or the 5th grade wiki.

### Science

Last week the students shared what they had learned about their scientist with the rest of their class and it went very well. This week we will continue to explore pollution and how it affects the world we live in.

### Social Studies

Group presentations on Native Americans last week were very well done. We had a variety of presentations, including posters, videos, models, and written reports. We have now started our unit on Exploration with a discussion on Friday about the Silk Road. This week, we will continue to learn about trade routes and I will assign an individual report on explorers. Additional information will be posted on the wiki.

### We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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